

The Sun

AND NEW YORK PRESS.

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ades and displayed equal if not greater efficiency in the use of artillery and in trench warfare.

The efforts to combat the submarine have consisted largely in some improvement in the protection of vessels, by depth bombs, by disguises for ships, by increased vigilance on the part of seamen, by fleets of convoying war craft and by the use of destroyers. But a definite means for the destruction of the submarine, a means to defeat its purpose, to make its building useless, to drive it from the seas, has not been discovered.

Here is truly a great problem for the naval engineer or the naval officer to solve.

If the new blood in the British navy can discover a means to "overcome the submarine peril" and at the same time keep the German fleets bottled up in their harbors, it will have accomplished a great purpose and one that will make up for the loss to active service of even so able a seaman as Admiral Jellicoe.

Little Journeys to Two Sources of Income.

To such as believe that money makes the mare go but that the mare will not go without a lot of money we suggest a glance at the sources whence come the personal funds of two individuals now prominent in negotiations in which the whole world is interested. Let us first examine the income of him who appears in the posture of benevolent suppliant, the King of Prussia. To quote from the "Statesman's Year Book":

"At present the total Kronendotation (income, as far as it figures in the budgets, amounts to 17,119,296 marks. The reigning house is also in possession of a vast amount of private property, comprising castles, forests and great landed estates in various parts of the kingdom."

"The revenue from the crown lands, which mainly serves to defray the expenditure of the court and the members of the royal family."

The name or aliases of the other noted man do not appear in the "Statesman's Year Book," but we find him in a recent interview with Mr. Charles R. Crane of this city, who is just home from Russia:

"When I first came from Russia I went into the kitchen of my house to tell some of my Russian servants of the things I had seen. My cook said, 'Did you see anything of Tzaritzin over there?' I said, 'Yes, I went over on the boat with him.' Well, she said, 'The owner is ten dollars, and another maid boy and an old man, he owes me twenty, and I discovered that in a little Russian club in New York the same Tzaritzin had managed to collect quite a little fund to make his return trip to Russia.'"

If the business now pending between William and Leon should result, directly or indirectly, in general peace, we trust that the cook and the maid will not be left out of the list of indemnifications. If Leon does not pay, William should pay, unless the German people have by that time made too drastic reductions in the Kronendotation. When a prince bows to a pauperizer the pauperizer is likely to forget where his transportation money came from, but the prince ought to inquire, and having learned, kick in.

An Almanac for 1918.

We have not examined the annual supply of almanacs as yet and thus are permitted to dwell yet a little longer in that state of pleased expectancy from which the almanac makers yearn to deliver us. An almanac is primarily a book of days, if we may accept the assurance of philologists, who find the word to be probably Arabic, "al manakh," the calendar. In older times the Magnanimity Mutual Insurance Company of Babylon, which furnished group insurance on the workmen employed in building the hanging gardens, did not get out an elaborate art calendar for free distribution, but only a simple baked clay tablet with characters to assure the plain Mesopotamian ruralist of the incidence of May 2 on the day after May 1.

This naturally did not satisfy the farmers along the Tigris and Euphrates. They wanted hints about the crop outlook and advice on what to take for a bad cold, or rather, what was sufficiently worth taking to make a bad cold worth materializing. Even in those days man tried regularly for self-justification, with about the usual percentage of success.

The farmers of the river bottoms had their way. From being a calendar merely al manakh became a sort of condensed Country Gentleman. The Mesopotamians liked it mightily, we have no doubt, but the annual was spoiled when the horologists and southsayers got together and took over its publication. They filled it full of prophecies and predictions, most of which turned out wrong. Professor G. Meyer of Hoboken could have made a better job of it.

However, the popular memory for such things is short, and al manakh, serving well its purpose of entertaining the multitude and inspiring occasional respect and even awe in its readers, passed into the category of accepted things and became a necessity like air, water, sunshine and sulphuric acid for industrial purposes. To-day we should no more be able to get along without almanacs than without the cafeteria, the seven passenger car or steamship.

The almanac, in its perfection, flourishes most vigorously in these United States from New England to Georgia, from Poor Richard to O'Connell. So invaluable is it that did we not know better we should vow

the name derived from the Latin "alma," meaning "nourishing" and "nae," "naek," of "knack." An almanac is a volume with the knack of nourishing the hope that springs eternal in the young man's fancy lightly turning to thoughts of the time to plant peas.

The makers of almanacs have occasionally and signally failed us. Where is that number of their traditional product which said, six months in advance of July, 1914:

"About this time look for a political assassination with far reaching consequences for all Europe."

No book of days told us, at the beginning of 1917, that earliest spring would see the fall of the Czar of All the Russias. We did not persevere in January a year ago a prediction that the United States would find itself speedily at war with the arch enemy of free peoples. We recall no carefully worked prophecy of American soldiers in France by July, no advance notice of the Italian setback, no introduction to the new and then meaningless word "Bolshevik," a word which might have come straight out of "Gulliver's Travels" along with Brobdingnag and Lilliput. No almanac invited our attention to the presence of Leon Trotsky, alias Leon Tzotzyk, then living in a Bronx tenement, and no almanac printed the picture of General Kahlenberg, nephew of the Don Cossacks, as that of a notable man.

The compilers of our yearbooks were singularly unseeing as regards the events of the year 1917. We earnestly hope for the sake of their reputations they will be more perspicacious in respect of the happenings in the twelvemonth ahead of us. We should like to see some entries on the order of the following:

"JANUARY 31. Persistent mild weather with the usual surplus of coal in all parts of the United States."

"FEBRUARY 12. Lincoln's Birthday. General Kahlenberg, the Poles and the Carpathians, having restored order in Russia, will call together the Constitutional Assembly to frame a constitutional government. Preparations will be made for a powerful offensive against the armies of the Central Powers as soon as snow permits military operations in the Carpathian passes."

"MARCH 17. St. Patrick's Day. Irish troops will advance beyond Cambrai and the Hindenburg line will be abandoned shortly afterward."

"APRIL 1. All Fools' Day. The German Emperor will make a peace offer."

"MAY 10. The Americans under General Pershing will make important gains which threaten to flank the whole German line, and which will hasten the German retirement in the west."

"JUNE 15. Secretary McAnoo will report total subscriptions to the new war fund of \$10,000,000.00 and a total of 20,000,000 individual subscribers."

"JULY 4. Independence Day. The United States and the Entente Allies, following the precedent of the Emancipation Proclamation, will issue a joint proclamation recognizing the right of the peoples of Poland, Lithuania, Bohemia and other geographical and racial units to national independence and self-determined government."

"AUGUST 1. Belgium will be nearly cleared of the German invaders and in the vicinity of — [deleted by censor] American armies will be fighting on traditionally German soil. The fourth anniversary of the beginning of the world war occurs today."

"SEPTEMBER 1. Germany will sue for peace through a committee of the Reichstag, which has taken control of the Government. Fate of the Kaiser at the moment in doubt."

Now, some entries like these in the almanacs for 1918, we say, would please us mightily, but we do not expect to find them as we turn the pages, for the almanac makers are a timid race. They will never win the war for us; they lack the necessary confidence. So we shall have to win it ourselves and show them up for the cravens they are.

Expert Stokers at the Cook Range and the Domestic Furnace.

In large industrial plants and on all transportation systems the economical use of fuel has been the subject of study for years. In well managed factories the consumption of coal is not in excess of the requirements of the machinery in use. Laboratory tests of coal and expert stoking are parts of the routine of efficient operation, and excessive generation of heat or the wasteful application of heat is not tolerated.

But in smaller establishments and in home cooking ranges and heating stoves and furnaces there is now, as there always has been, unnecessary consumption of coal, formerly to be counted only as drain on the pocketbook of the householder, to-day, in time of insufficient supplies, a matter of public concern; and in most cases this excessive consumption has not only cost money, but has actually deflected the object of those who heaped the fuel on the fires.

Every stove and furnace is designed with a firebox capacity mathematically determined and proved by experiment. Not only must a sufficient body of coals be provided to obtain the necessary heat, but air circulation must be maintained to keep combustion at its proper point. Too little fuel is inefficient and extravagant; too much coal is as bad. Proper stoking of a range or a furnace does not call for an intimate knowledge of the B. T. U., but it does require obedience to the simple instructions which are furnished by the maker of every heating device to his customers.

To take a familiar domestic example, it is apparently impossible to

convince the average family cook that the coal should not be heaped in the firebox until it touches the stove lids; in many cases these are raised by the fuel under them. This not only deadens the fire, but the coal above the firebrick obstructs the air currents and decreases the heating capacity of the range. The designers of ranges compute the air space necessary above the fire to obtain the best results, and send the products of their labors out into the world to be abused by persons who are too lazy to follow instructions or too stupid to remember them. The improperly built fire not only wastes coal, but deprives the range of its usefulness and destroys its members.

The same is true of furnaces. The greatest amount of fuel that can be shoveled into the firebox does not assure the hottest fire or the greatest amount of heat delivered at the radiators. When the bed of coals encroaches on the space designed for air circulation, the action of the furnace is impeded, and the householder is actually defeating his object and paying for the privilege.

It is impracticable for every cook and furnace tender to become a skilled fireman, but it is reasonable to ask every one of them to follow the not intricate directions for fire building and fire maintenance issued by the makers of ranges and furnaces, and thus to serve their own interest and that of the public. In the aggregate scores of thousands of tons of coal are wasted in ignorantly managed domestic cooking and heating apparatuses in this country annually, and the present season of shortage is good time for the offenders to amend their ways for their own benefit and the protection of the public.

"Win the war by giving up silk shirts and stiffly starched linen collars for flannel shirts and soft collars. Win the war! It should be much besides that. I would release millions of men from a thrall of discomfort. The endurance of stiffly starched shirt collars for two generations or so proves that man is just as poor and weak a creature as he has been said to be. Let him stretch out his shirt front, the war alone, it may be, can take the starch out of his collars."

The low bid for "plumbing" in the reconstruction of the City Hall clock was \$18,000. There is no excuse for the new clock having a dirty face or hands.

The New York wife who went and declared that she had lost her husband's love because he gave her Liberty Bonds, and who said she had a Christian, proves that the right to vote does not reduce the degree of femininity in woman. Neither did the newly enfranchised one show herself unsexed when she cut the first coupons from the bonds before scornfully rejecting them as a becoming token of love and affection.

This business of having a customer who insists on disregarding meatless and wheatless days sign a "slacker card" releasing the restaurant from all moral responsibility is too absurd to be convincing. The restaurant that lives up to its pledge by not printing meat or wheat dishes on its menu cards for the respective days of abstinence. If, despite the bill of fare, a customer calls for the omitted article, let him be told, "We haven't it." There need be no refusal to serve and no making of affidavits.

Ex-Representative JOHN E. ANDREWS, a notable and sensible charitable endowment, are to be administered by the Sumner Foundation, to which his fortune is to be transferred. The institution, which will be incorporated by a bill introduced in the House, has been founded by Andrews, the philosopher Samuel Butler of Brewham, and Mr. Andrews's suggestions for the employment of his benefaction are of a kind that might have won the approval of Mr. Butler. Certainly the community at large, for their aim is to make self-supporting, self-respecting men and women of the children who are to be the first to profit by his public spirit.

THE PATRIOTS' NEW YEAR.

This Is Not a Season for Frivolity and Extravagant Celebration.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: In line with the suggestion in the communication of Hugh Reid Lawford printed in The Sun, Kansas City will have one of the quietest New Year's Eve in its history. There will be no New Year's celebrations in the leading hotels, because of an action on the part of the hotel men, such action being taken without pressure from any source. The members of the association will also try to induce other hotel and café proprietors who are not members to comply with the arrangements adopted by the members. W. S. MARS, president of the association, said:

"In the spirit of conservation and out of respect to the desires of the army organization the Kansas City Hotel Keepers Association has unanimously agreed to eliminate the usual celebration this year."

What is to prevent New York from following the lead of Kansas City? Let New York cut out the noise makers, the paper hats, the souvenirs and the favors as Kansas City is doing. Let the cafes in New York close at the regular hour; there is no reason for their keeping open any later.

There is no desire to curtail the pleasure of New Yorkers; there is no desire to look on the blue side of matters; but we are in the midst of a great war and we should conserve our energy and means and devote that thought to a successful conclusion of the war.

NEW YORK, December 29.

Experts and Imports.

From the Wichita Falls Times.

A thriving export and import business has just been concluded by the first term of the Federal District Court, sitting in Wichita Falls. The forty indictments were based mostly upon the exportation of liquor, and the defendants were mostly imported from Oklahoma.

Discouraging News Situation in Arkansas.

Sumner correspondence Grand Prairie News.

We realize that not sent in much news this time, but the weather here so cold that we don't feel like hunting much more.

WHERE HALE DIED.

The Dove Tavern and Its Rich Historical Associations.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: That the history of the famous tins on the Post Road may be concluded the following data about the Dove Tavern are presented.

One of the noted events which occurred on the common lands—the National Hunt—was taken place in the Dove Tavern, where and under what circumstances he was captured and executed has been a matter of tradition and uncertainty until very lately. Up to the time when Howe's order was discovered by the late William Kelley, historian of the New York Historical Society, conclusive establishment of several disputed points had been impossible.

From the new and final authority we know that Hale was "apprehended" on the night of September 21, that he was hanged at 11 o'clock in the forenoon of the 23d, and that the place was the camp of the British artillery. The long accepted tradition that the place of execution was Colonel Henry Rutgers' orchard, overlooking the river at the foot of the present East Broadway, then on the outskirts of the city, must give way, with other traditions, before the official record of September 22, 1776.

The "Artillery Park" mentioned therein has been definitely located near this well known place, the mapping of the streets, became placed at about present Sixty-sixth street and Third avenue. That it was of early pre-Revolutionary origin is proved by the notice thereof in the New York Mercury of October 12, 1767, where "the noted tavern known by the name of the Sign of the Dove" is advertised to let. The house had been newly repaired, was in good order and an excellent place for business, being only "four miles (sic) from the city on the road to King's Bridge. For particulars enquire of James Miller."

On March 8, 1776, the New York Gazette and Weekly Mercury announced that the house known as the Sign of the Dove, situated on the road to King's Bridge, and an excellent place for business, being only "four miles (sic) from the city on the road to King's Bridge. For particulars enquire of James Miller."

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